



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer-  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

At the Budget Deliberations held June 23, 2003, the Board took the following action:

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The following item was called up for consideration:

Revisions, additions, and changes by the Board members to the Chief Administrative Officer's budget recommendations as deemed necessary; and approval of revised figures as the Final Budget for 2003-04.

David E. Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer addressed the Board.

After discussion, by common consent and there being no objection, the Board took various actions as indicated below and ordered such revisions, additions, and changes to the Chief Administrative Officer's budget recommendations as deemed necessary; approved the revised figures as the Final Budget for 2003-04.

4-A.

Supervisor Molina made the following statement:

"Currently only one-third of the cities served by the County library participate in the special parcel tax. This is one of the reasons why the library is experiencing a shortfall in revenues. Yet, this year there are one-time savings into other accounts that may be used to prevent closures of libraries and serious service reductions.

"At the beginning of this fiscal year, the Board of Supervisors asked County Counsel to set aside \$3.48 million into Provisional Financing Uses from the \$167 million spent on legal costs, to determine if some or all of that money could be saved through litigation management reforms. As of today, County Counsel has not had to use this fund. These savings in litigation can now be allotted to avoid some of the cuts in library services. The Library Department is facing a \$7 million deficit that will result in the closure of 15 libraries throughout the County.

(Continued on Page 2)

4-A through P (Continued)

4-A. (Continued)

“The remaining source to fill this gap in our library system can be filled with a portion of the Provisional Financing Uses recommended at \$24 million for the Los Angeles County Administrative System (LACAS).”

After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Molina, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Allocated and transferred \$3.784 million from Provisional Financing Uses – LACAS and \$3.48 million from Provisional Financing Uses – Judgments and Damages in total amount of \$7.264 million to the Library Budget for Fiscal Year 2003-04, with this action contingent on a requirement that all cities served by the County libraries that are not currently participating in the library special tax place a measure on their local ballot by June 30, 2004 to give their voters the opportunity to vote on whether to participate in the special tax; and
2. Instructed the County Librarian to provide to the Board on Tuesday, June 24, 2003 a list of cities that are not participating in the library's special tax; and

In addition, Supervisor Burke requested the County Librarian to work with those cities currently not participating in the Special Tax Assessment, to try to adopt alternative methods of finance on a long-term basis.

(ALSO SEE 4-L AND 9 THIS DATE)

4-B.

The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Knabe and Yaroslavsky:

“The General Fund cut being recommended for the Los Angeles County Lifeguards is too large to adequately provide public safety, and could potentially risk lives by reducing summer beach staffing. In order to ensure the safety of visitors to our County beaches this summer this Board should restore funding to cover adequate summer staffing of lifeguards.”

(Continued on Page 3)

4-A through P (Continued)

4-B. (Continued)

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Knabe, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, duly carried by the following vote: Ayes: Supervisors Yaroslavsky, Knabe, Antonovich and Burke; Noes: Supervisor Molina, the Board instructed the Chief Administrative Officer to reallocate \$650,000 from the Designation for Budgetary Uncertainties Account to the Fire Department for lifeguard summer staffing from June 29, 2003 through September 6, 2003, and funding for the Water Rescue Team.

(ALSO SEE 4-L AND 4-D THIS DATE)

4-C.

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“The proposed budget for the Department of Parks and Recreation recommends terminating agreements with the State of California for the operation of Castaic Lake and Placerita Canyon Park. The Director of Parks and Recreation and my office have been in dialogue with State officials to secure State funding for the County to continue operating both facilities. Overall cost to run both facilities is \$2 million (\$1.7 million for Castaic Lake and \$300,000 for Placerita Canyon Park). The State cannot commit funding until the final budget is approved, however, discussions have been favorable.

“My office has allocated funding to keep Placerita Canyon open through August, pending adoption of the State budget. The Chief Administrative Officer recommended funding of Castaic Lake through July 9, 2003, which does not provide sufficient time for the State to adopt their budget.”

Tim Gallagher, Director of Parks and Recreation addressed the Board.

After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, unanimously carried, the Board authorized the Director of Parks and Recreation to continue operating Castaic Lake through August 2003 at an estimated cost of \$400,000 through use of funds from the Department's Administration Budget for Fiscal Year 2003-04; and instructed the Chief Administrative Officer to review any savings in the current Fiscal Year budget to cover this cost if the State does not allocate funding.

(ALSO SEE 4-L THIS DATE)

(Continued on Page 4)

4-A through P (Continued)

4-D.

The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Yaroslavsky and Burke:

“Given the reductions in the net County cost imposed on all departments in the Fiscal Year 2003-04 Proposed Budget, the Board of Supervisors’ net County cost allocation should also be reduced.”

After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, seconded by Supervisor Burke, unanimously carried, the Board reduced each Supervisor’s operating budget by 5% (\$775,000) for Fiscal Year 2003-04 with \$650,000 to fund lifeguards and \$125,000 to be placed in the Designation for Budgetary Uncertainties.

(ALSO SEE 4-B AND 4-L THIS DATE)

4-E.

Supervisor Burke made the following statement:

“Community surveys conducted in the United States and other countries have documented the frequent co-occurrence of substance use disorders with mental illness. Among individuals being treated for chronic or severe mental illness, such as those in the public mental health system, approximately 50% have a co-occurring substance use disorder. The abuse of alcohol and drugs by such individuals has a major detrimental impact on the course of their mental illness, leading to symptom exacerbation and relapse, noncompliance with outpatient mental health treatment, higher overall treatment costs, significantly worse social and occupational functioning, and increased risk of death from suicide. In addition, there is evidence to suggest that adolescent drug use may be a risk factor for several mental disorders, including schizophrenia.

“Although co-occurring disorders are recognized as a significant public mental health problem, treatment has been suboptimal. The separate organization and financing of mental health and substance abuse services has resulted in significant differences in the attitudes and training of mental health and substance abuse treatment professionals, contributing to difficulties in providing effective treatment.

(Continued on Page 5)

4-A through P (Continued)

4-E. (Continued)

“The Department of Mental Health plans to establish an Institute for Co-Occurring Disorders, developed in conjunction with the Augustus F. Hawkins Mental Health Center (AFHMH) and in collaboration with the Harbor/UCLA Medical Center and the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science. The Institute, which will be located on the campus of the King/Drew Medical Center will create a state-of-the-art, evidence-based model continuum of care for adolescents and adults with co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorders that can be replicated throughout the County. It is envisioned that the Institute will also serve as a Countywide resource for research, education and training for the Departments of Mental Health, Children and Family Services, Probation, Health Services’ Alcohol and Drug Program Administration, the public school system, and other agencies serving this population. The education, research, and treatment provided by the Institute will greatly improve the quality of care for people with co-occurring disorders in Los Angeles County. In particular, services offered by the Institute will reduce hospitalization, incarceration and homelessness, and improve the quality of life among those with co-occurring disorders, and alleviate overcrowding in County hospital emergency rooms.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, duly carried by the following vote: Ayes: Supervisors Yaroslavsky, Knabe, Antonovich and Burke; Noes: Supervisor Molina, the Board allocated \$375,000 in one-time only money from the Appropriation for Contingencies to renovate the Augustus F. Hawkins Mental Health Center located on the campus of Martin Luther King/Drew Medical Center to accommodate the Institute.

(ALSO SEE 4-L THIS DATE)

(Continued on Page 6)

4-A through P (Continued)

4-F.

Supervisor Knabe made the following statement:

“The General Fund cut being recommended for the Sheriff’s Department is far too large, and may put this County’s public safety at risk. Restoring the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program would greatly enhance public safety and law enforcement services for our County’s communities.”

Therefore, Supervisor Knabe made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, that the Board instruct the Chief Administrative Officer to reallocate \$6,553,000 from the Provisional Financing Uses Account to the Sheriff’s Department for the restoration of 81 COPS deputies. Said motion failed to carry by the following vote: Ayes: Supervisors Knabe and Antonovich; Noes: Supervisors Molina, Yaroslavsky, and Burke.

4-G.

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“The Probation Department anticipates receiving \$3.38 million in additional revenues this fiscal year. Without official action to appropriate this year’s revenues to next year’s budget, Probation’s excess revenue will roll to fund balance, and will not be available for Probation to use. Without access to these funds, Probation has no ability to mitigate its net County cost reductions, and will have to curtail programs.”

Richard Shumsky, Chief Probation Officer and Paul Higa, Chief Deputy Probation Officer, addressed the Board.

After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, unanimously carried, the Board instructed the Chief Probation Officer to carryover \$3.38 million of its Fiscal Year 2002-03 excess fund balance to mitigate anticipated curtailments in Fiscal Year 2003-04, including the closure of Camp Rockey and Operation Read.

Further, the Chief Probation Officer was instructed to report back to the Board in two weeks on the effectiveness of Project Read and the Post Disposition Program.

(ALSO SEE 4-L THIS DATE)

(Continued on Page 7)

4-A through P (Continued)

4-H.

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“The current budget will force the Probation Department to cut up to 24 school-based Deputy Probation Officers. These officers provide vital daily oversight of youthful probationers, ensuring that they are attending school, complying with the terms of probation, and maintain their grades. Without these officers, these youngsters would only have interaction with their probation officers during mandated home visits and office appointments.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, unanimously carried, the Board approved a \$512,000 budget augmentation from the Probation Department’s excess fund balance for school-based Deputy Probation Officers.

(ALSO SEE 4-L THIS DATE)

4-I.

Supervisor Knabe made the following statement:

“The General Fund cuts to the District Attorney’s budget over the course of the past few years have been too severe. The recommendation for an additional \$4.6 million cut in Fiscal Year 2003-04 will have too great an impact on prosecution efforts and public safety.”

Therefore, Supervisor Knabe made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, that the Chief Administrative Officer be instructed to reallocate from the Provisional Financing Uses Account \$2,008,631 to the District Attorney’s Family Violence Division and \$2,700,000 to the District Attorney’s Sex Crime Division. Said motion failed to carry by the following vote: Ayes: Supervisors Knabe and Antonovich; Noes: Supervisors Molina, Yaroslavsky, and Burke.

4-J.

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“In the event of a terrorist biological or chemical attack, the Coroner as a first responder is expected to conduct critical at scene death investigations and examine/autopsy bodies exposed to dangerous pathogens or radiation. While efforts are currently underway to seek needed safety equipment through Homeland Security Grants, costs for mandatory training and autopsy equipment have not been addressed.”

(Continued on Page 8)

4-A through P (Continued)

4-J. (Continued)

Anthony Hernandez, Director of Department of Coroner, addressed the Board.

After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, duly carried by the following vote: Ayes: Supervisors Molina, Yaroslavsky, Knabe, Antonovich and Burke; Noes: None, the Board approved a \$103,000 budget augmentation from Designation for Budgetary Uncertainties Fund to Provisional Financing Uses – Coroner for mandatory first responder safety equipment training, biohazard containment tents, autopsy hepa filtration system, laboratory upgrade from biohazard level 2 to level 3, and other necessities for use in case of a chemical or biological attack.

Further, the Board instructed the Chief Administrative Officer to review the Homeland Security Grants and report back with recommendations to fund the training of staff to use the safety equipment and gear to respond to potential disasters.

(ALSO SEE 4-L THIS DATE)

4-K.

The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Antonovich and Yaroslavsky:

“The Department of Mental Health (DMH) has included curtailments of \$10 million in its Fiscal Year 2003-04 Proposed Budget due to the State’s financial deficit. The County’s proposed curtailment reduces County operated programs by \$5.41 million, and contract services providers by \$4.59 million.

“DMH has identified \$4 million of unspent Sales Tax Realignment funds for Fiscal Year 2002-03. In addition, DMH identified one-time unspent County General Funds because of the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) increase for Federal Financial Participation (FFP) in the amount of \$3.44, and \$1.18 in Federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Agency (SAMSHA) and Pathway To Alternative For Homeless (PATH) funds totaling \$4.63 million.

(Continued on Page 9)



4-A through P (Continued)

4-K. (Continued)

“Notably, the State’s SB 90 reimbursement process for AB 3632 school based mental health service contractors’ cost remain inoperative due to the State’s failure to make payments. This has resulted in unpaid SB 90 contractor bills for Fiscal Year 2000-01 of approximately \$4.8 million and another \$10.2 million for Fiscal Year 2001-02.

“There is a need to preserve mental health service contractors funds to ensure that mental health patients have an adequate level of treatment, so this vulnerable population does not become part of our fragile health care or jail systems. Yet, it is necessary to reserve the \$4 million in unspent Sales Tax Realignment funds given the County’s experience with State payments during the present economic State financial condition. There is no certainty that the State will pay the \$4 million within 12 months. The \$4 million needs deferring for Board action to mid Fiscal Year 2003-04, or at least until the State finalizes its budget.

“It is imperative that we freeze the County General Funds available through the FMAP and SAMSHA/PATH in the combined amount of \$4.63 million to reduce contract providers curtailment by \$2.5 million, from \$4.59 million to \$2.09 million, and show the County’s good faith efforts to make a first time portion payment of \$2.13 million for SB 90 claims to contractors who have rendered AB 3632 services in Fiscal Years 2000-01 and 2001-02.

Dr. Marvin J. Southard, Director and Gurubanda Singh Khalsa, Financial Services Bureau, Department of Mental Health and Bruce Saltzer, Executive Director, Association of Community Human Services Agencies (ACHSA) addressed the Board.

Therefore, Supervisor Antonovich made a motion that the Board instruct the Chief Administrative Officer, the Auditor-Controller, and Director of Mental Health to freeze the County General Funds for FMAP-FFP and SAMSHA/PATH in the amount of \$4.63 million and redirect these funds to reduce curtailments for contract service providers by \$2.5 million, and make a portion payment of \$2.13 million for unpaid SB 90 claims for AB 3632 contractors services rendered in Fiscal Years 2000-01 and 2001-02.

(Continued on Page 10)

4-A through P (Continued)

4-K. (Continued)

Supervisor Burke made a suggestion that Supervisor Antonovich's aforementioned motion be amended as follows:

1. To address contract providers (ACHSA) concerns, that once the \$4 million Sales Tax Realignment funds are realized in August-September, that the Board reconsider shifting these funds in place of the FMAP-FFP and SAMSHA/PATH money; and
2. Instruct the Director of Mental Health to report back to the Board in two weeks with an action plan to assist contractors in successfully accessing their indigent children clients to the State's Healthy Families Program.

After discussion, Supervisor Yaroslavsky offered an amendment to Supervisor Burke's first amendment (#1) to clarify as follows:

"If and when the Sales Tax Realignment Funds are realized, the Board will calendar that item in order to consider a dollar for dollar swap of Realignment Funds for the FMAP Funds."

Supervisor Antonovich accepted the amendments.

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, by common consent and there being no objection, the Board instructed the Chief Administrative Officer, the Auditor-Controller, and Director of Mental Health to freeze the County General Funds for FMAP-FFP and SAMSHA/PATH in the amount of \$4.63 million and redirect these funds to reduce curtailments for contract service providers by \$2.5 million, and make a portion payment of \$2.13 million for unpaid SB 90 claims for AB 3632 contractors services rendered in Fiscal Years 2000-01 and 2001-02; and if and when the Sales Tax Realignment Funds are realized, schedule an item on the Board's agenda in order to consider a dollar for dollar swap of Realignment Funds for the FMAP Funds.

Further, the Director of Mental Health was instructed to report back to the Board in two weeks with an action plan to assist contractors in successfully accessing their indigent children clients to the State's Healthy Families Program.

(Continued on Page 11)

4-A through P (Continued)

4-K. (Continued)

In addition, Supervisor Molina requested the Director of Mental Health to report back to the Board as to what happens to the FMAP and SAMSHA monies when the Sales Tax Realignment money is funding the mental health programs.

(ALSO SEE 4-L THIS DATE)

(Relates to Item 3. Adoption of the Chief Administrative Officer's Recommended Adjustments to the 2003-04 Proposed County Budget provided \$1.18 million of the \$4.63 million funding necessary for this action, leaving a balance of \$3.45 million approved by adoption of this motion.)

4-L.

Supervisor Yaroslavsky made the following statement:

"Faced with uncertainties from the State budget, the County should appropriate additional funds with caution."

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, seconded by Supervisor Molina, unanimously carried, the Board instructed the Auditor-Controller to freeze all additional appropriations approved during the June 23, 2003 Budget Deliberations beginning October 1, 2003, unless otherwise determined by actions of the Board.

(RELATES TO 4-A THROUGH 4-K)

4-M.

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

"Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) is an infection spread from person to person contact. MRSA can cause skin lesions and high temperatures. Left untreated, this infection can be deadly. Currently, the Sheriff's department is reporting over 100 new cases of MRSA in the jails each month. The Sheriff is combating the disease through several different channels, but one of the best tools available would be an in-house Physician Epidemiologist and support staff.

(Continued on Page 12)

4-A through P (Continued)

4-M. (Continued)

“An in-house Physician Epidemiologist and support staff would track, review, and ensure treatment of all reportable cases of MRSA, both in the inmate and custody staff populations. They would augment and provide support services to the Communicable Disease Unit. The additional staff could then assist in developing training programs related to MRSA and other communicable diseases spread throughout the jails. Lastly, these personnel could follow up with inmates released while still infected with MRSA and serve as a direct liaison to the Department of Health Services.”

Therefore, Supervisor Antonovich made a motion that the Board approve a \$556,778 budget augmentation from the Designation for Budgetary Uncertainties Fund to the Sheriff's Department for one Physician Specialist Epidemiologist, three Public Health Nurses, and one Operations Assistant I to augment the Sheriff's Communicable Disease Unit. Said motion failed for lack of a second.

4-N.

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“When Measure B passed, funding was to be allocated for Bioterrorism and Trauma. The Auditor-Controller and Department of Health Services did not identify the formula used to earmark Measure B funds for these two categories.

“The County's Fire Chief submitted a proposal to address the need for Measure B funds for bioterrorism by creating a Hazardous Materials Team. In addition, the Fire Chief's proposal also addresses the need for helicopter transportation due to the lack of trauma in the Antelope Valley area. The Department of Health Services has not made any recommendations to allocate Measure B funds to either of these requests.

“In addition, Lancaster Community and Antelope Valley Hospitals' have expressed interest in future expansion of trauma services.

“The Antelope Valley is home to many industrial and aerospace companies, the threat of hazardous materials emergency incidents, terrorism, transports for trauma patients, and the lack of trauma hospitals makes the Antelope Valley area extremely vulnerable. The property taxpayers in the Antelope Valley have a right to have their Measure B tax dollars go into their community for bioterrorism and trauma services.

(Continued on Page 13)

4-A through P (Continued)

4-N. (Continued)

“It is imperative that the Department of Health Services makes every effort to address the requests from the Fire Department and discuss the possibility of expanding trauma services with Lancaster Community and Antelope Valley Hospitals.

“I therefore recommend that the Board instruct the Director of Health Services, his Emergency Management Systems Manager, and the Fire Chief to report back on recommendations addressing the Fire Department’s requests utilizing categorical Bioterrorism and Trauma funds through Measure B. This includes, the Department of Health Services providing a detailed report on the Measure B formula used to determine categorically fund and positions for existing Public Health Bioterrorism resources.

“I further recommend that the Board instruct the Director of Health Services, his Emergency Management Systems Manager to work in collaboration with Lancaster Community and Antelope Valley Hospitals to discuss what is needed to submit a comprehensive proposal to expand trauma services. This includes, the Department of Health Services follow-up with these hospitals and written bimonthly status reports to the Board on a bimonthly basis.”

Carol Gunther, Acting Director of Emergency Medical Services, Department of Health Services addressed the Board.

After discussion, by common consent and there being no objection, Supervisor Antonovich’s aforementioned recommendation was referred back to his office.

4-O.

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“The CLEAR Program is a collaborative effort between local law enforcement, Probation, and the District Attorney to target and prosecute criminal gang members. Funding for this program was approved in 1998. Since then, the State has annually decreased the allocation to Los Angeles County. In Fiscal Year 2002-03, the District Attorney’s allocation was cut by over \$1,000,000, forcing the unit to lose 7 deputy District Attorneys dedicated to the vertical prosecution of these gang crimes.”

(Continued on Page 14)

4-A through P (Continued)

4-O. (Continued)

Therefore, Supervisor Antonovich made a motion that the Board approve a \$1,082,000 budget augmentation from the Designation for Budgetary Uncertainties Fund to the District Attorney's office for seven Deputy District Attorney positions, which will restore the District Attorney's CLEAR program. Said motion failed for lack of a second.

4-P.

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

"Prior to the child support reform legislation in 1999, the administration of and fiscal responsibility for child support services rested with local governments. However, since the creation of the State Department of Child Support Services, the Child Support Services Department (CSSD) has become a state-directed, locally-delivered program. The funding for CSSD is shared between the federal (paying 2/3) and state governments (paying 1/3.)

"According to the Director of the State Department of Child Support Services, the Los Angeles County CSSD has been returning unallocated funds for the past three years as follows: \$8 million in 2000, \$3.2 million in 2001 and \$7.7 million in 2002."

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried, the Board instructed the Auditor-Controller and the Chief Administrative Officer to work in concert with the Director of Child Support Services to:

1. Identify all avenues available to the Child Support Services Department to gain more funding from the State and Federal governments;
2. Conduct an audit of the Child Support Services Department's existing service contracts for cost efficiency and effectiveness;

(Continued on Page 15)

4-A through P (Continued)

4-P. (Continued)

3. Review the current curtailments contemplated by the Child Support Services Department, including the proportion of the cuts to services and supplies to cuts in staffing;
4. Find creative solutions to minimize the number of staff layoffs; and
5. Report back to the Board with findings and recommendations of the above in 30 days.

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